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Ko

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(54) **VERTICALLY MATED MICRO COAXIAL CABLE CONNECTOR ASSEMBLY WITH GROUNDING SHIELD**

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6,500,013 B1 * 12/2002 Wang 439/108

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* cited by examiner

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(57) **ABSTRACT**

(21) Appl. No.: **10/155,747**

A micro coaxial cable connector assembly (1) includes a connector (10), a plurality of wires (20, 22), an upper grounding shield (30) and a lower grounding shield (40). The connector includes a mating portion (101), a plurality of terminals (102) received in the mating portion and a base (103) perpendicular to the mating portion. The upper grounding shield is assembled to the mating portion in a first direction. The lower grounding shield is assembled to the base in a second direction perpendicular to the first direction and electrically connecting with the upper grounding shield.

(22) Filed: **May 24, 2002**

(51) **Int. Cl.**⁷ **H01R 4/66**

(52) **U.S. Cl.** **439/108; 439/579; 439/607**

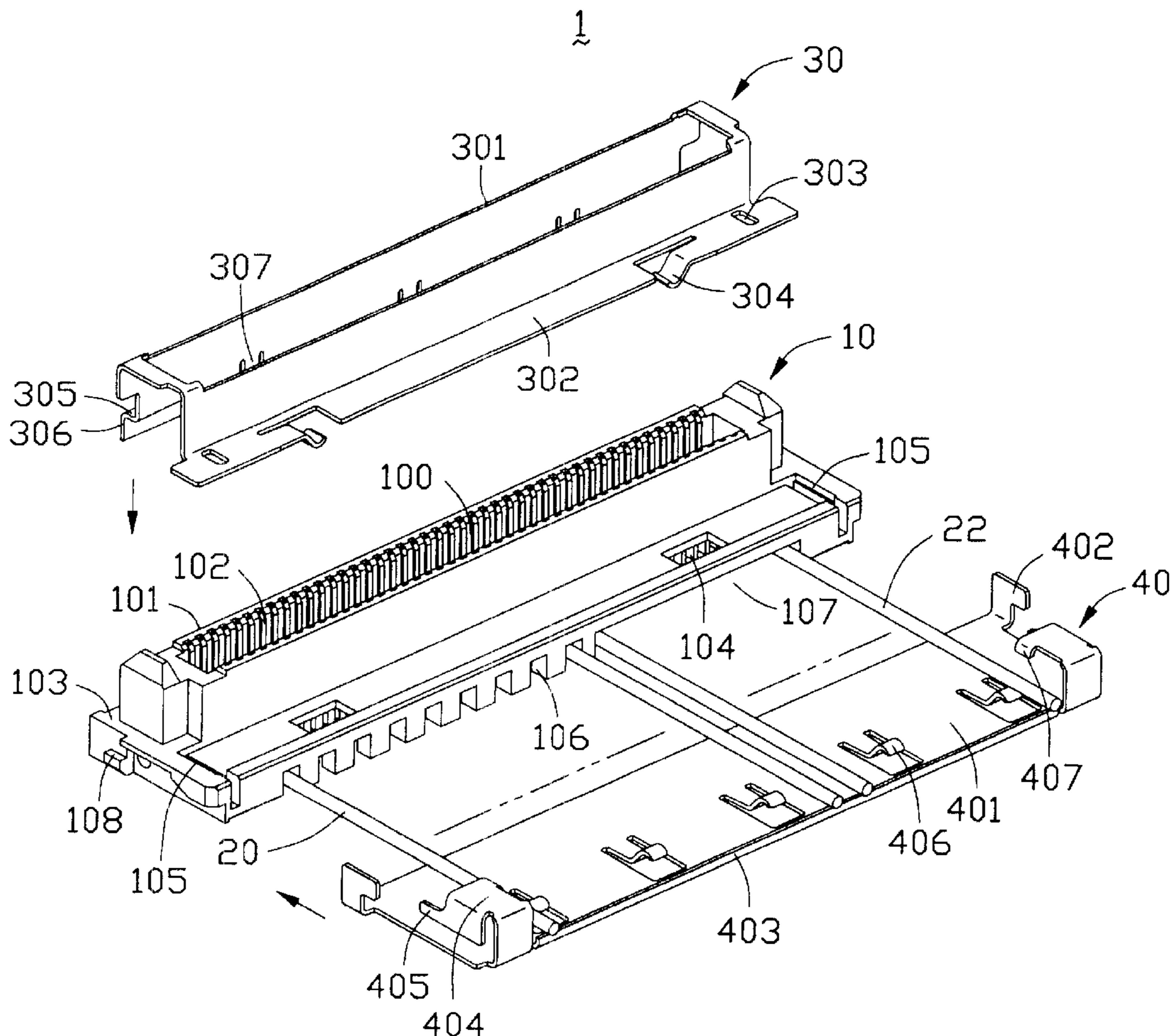
(58) **Field of Search** 439/108, 579,
439/497, 610, 607

(56) **References Cited**

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

5,387,124 A * 2/1995 Shinohara et al. 439/497

2 Claims, 7 Drawing Sheets



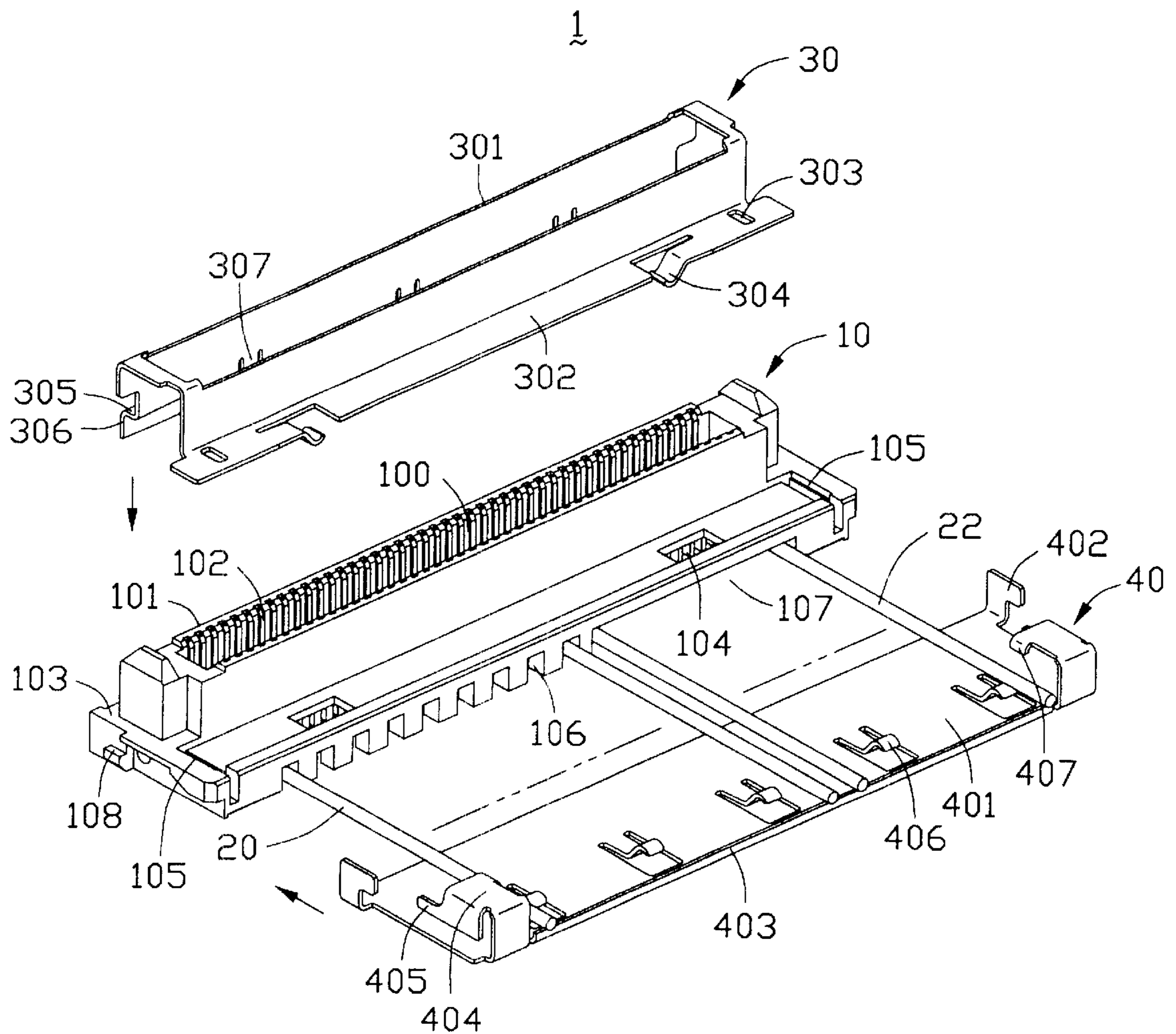


FIG. 1

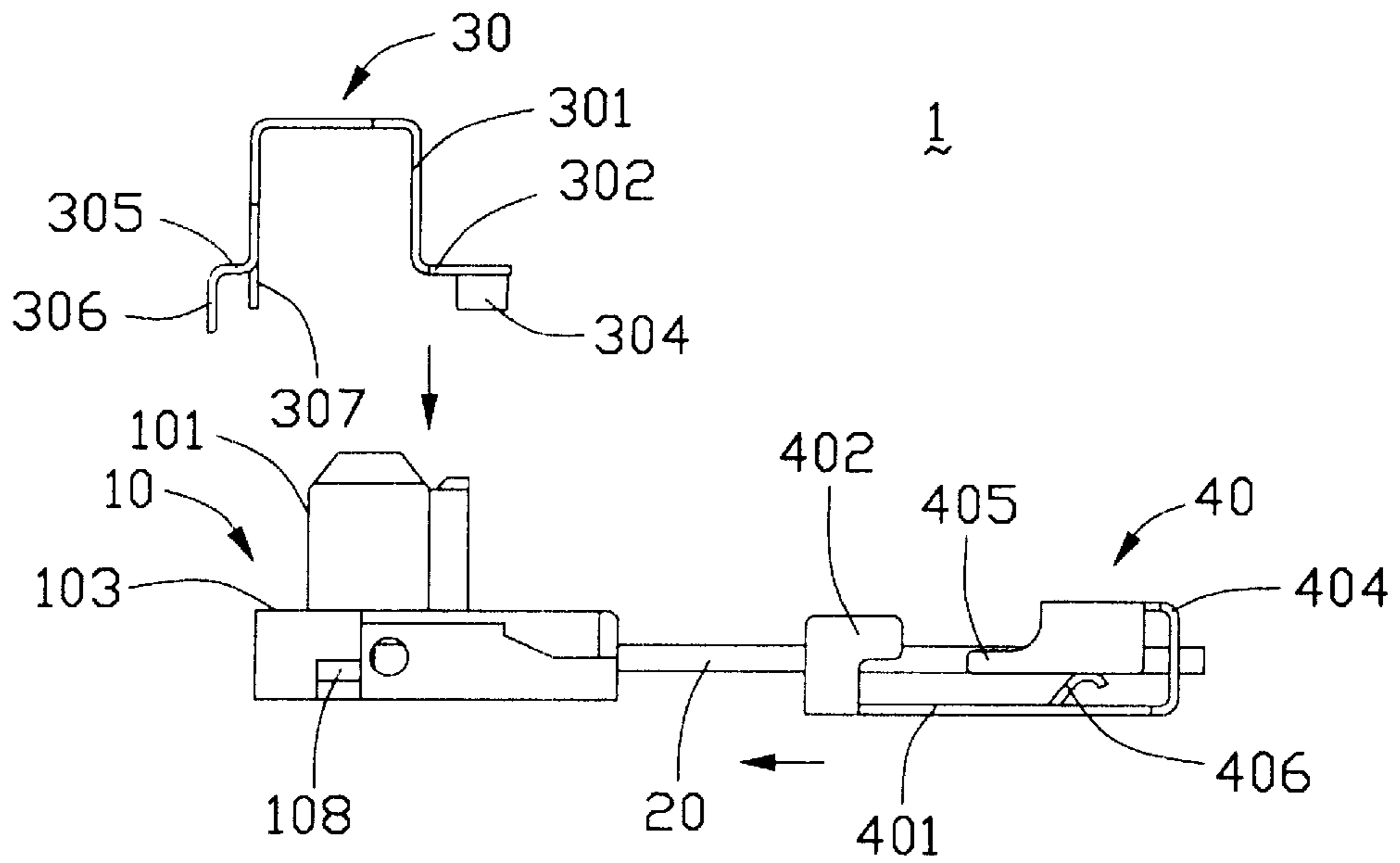


FIG. 2

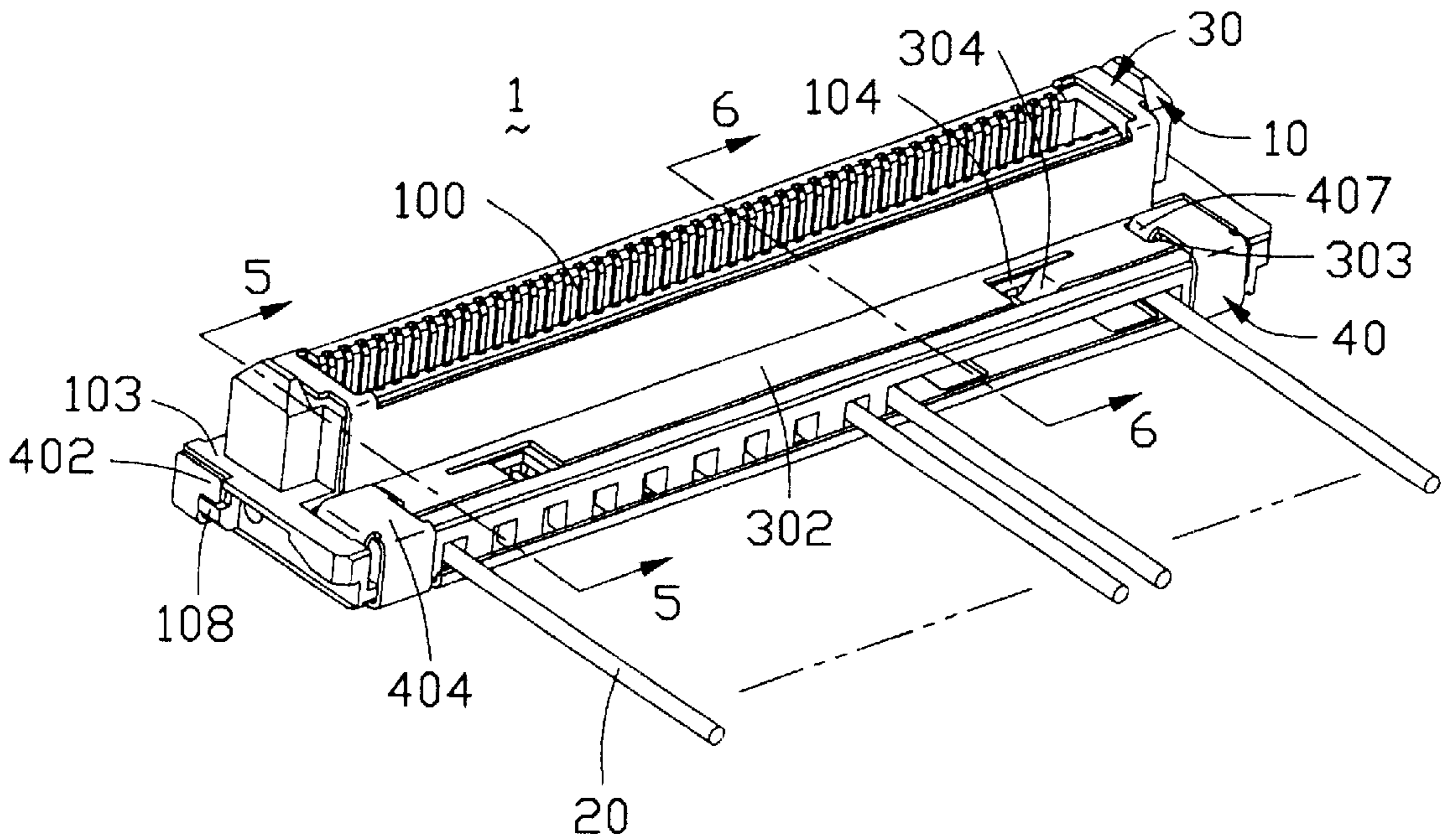


FIG. 3

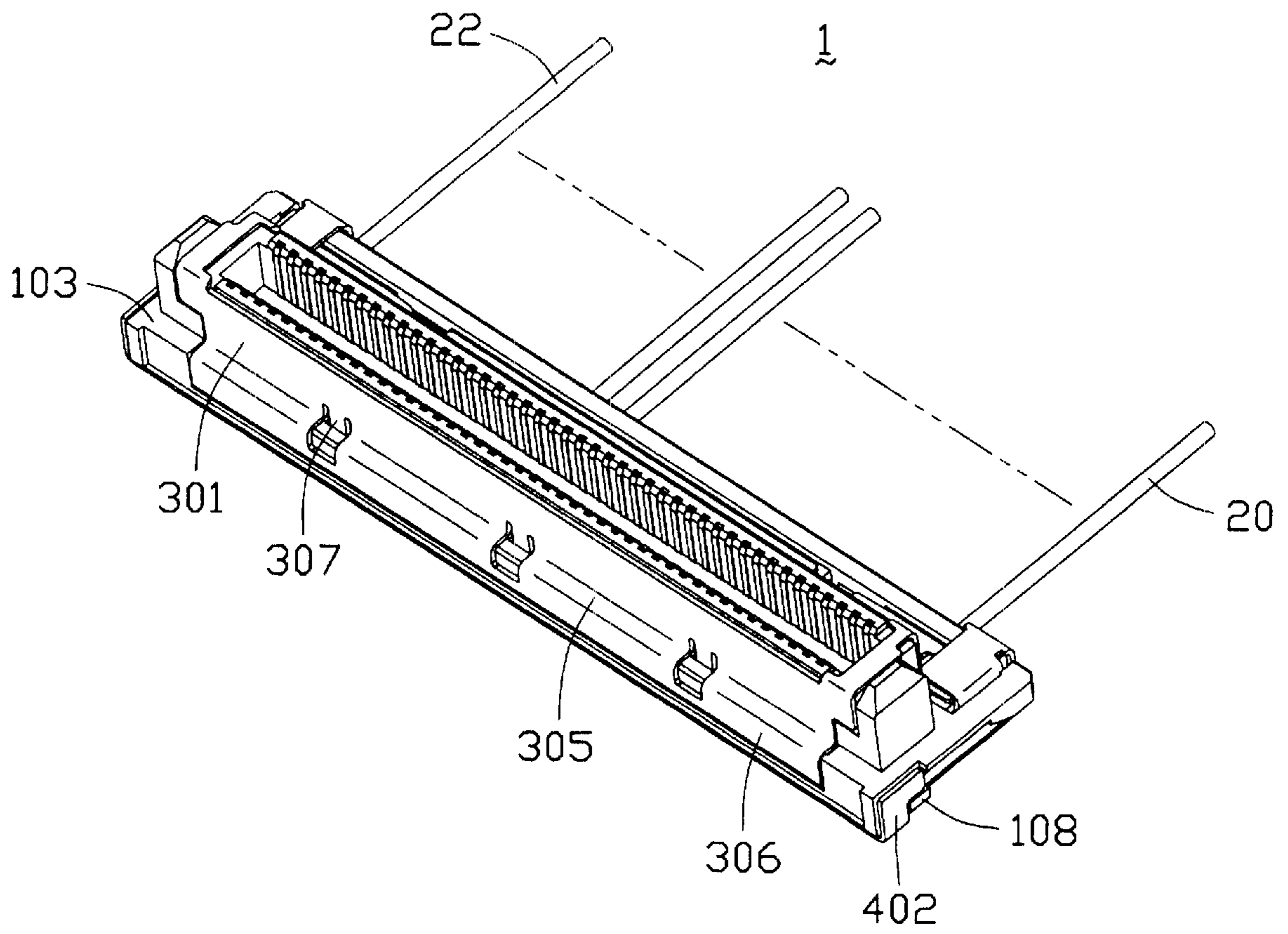


FIG. 4

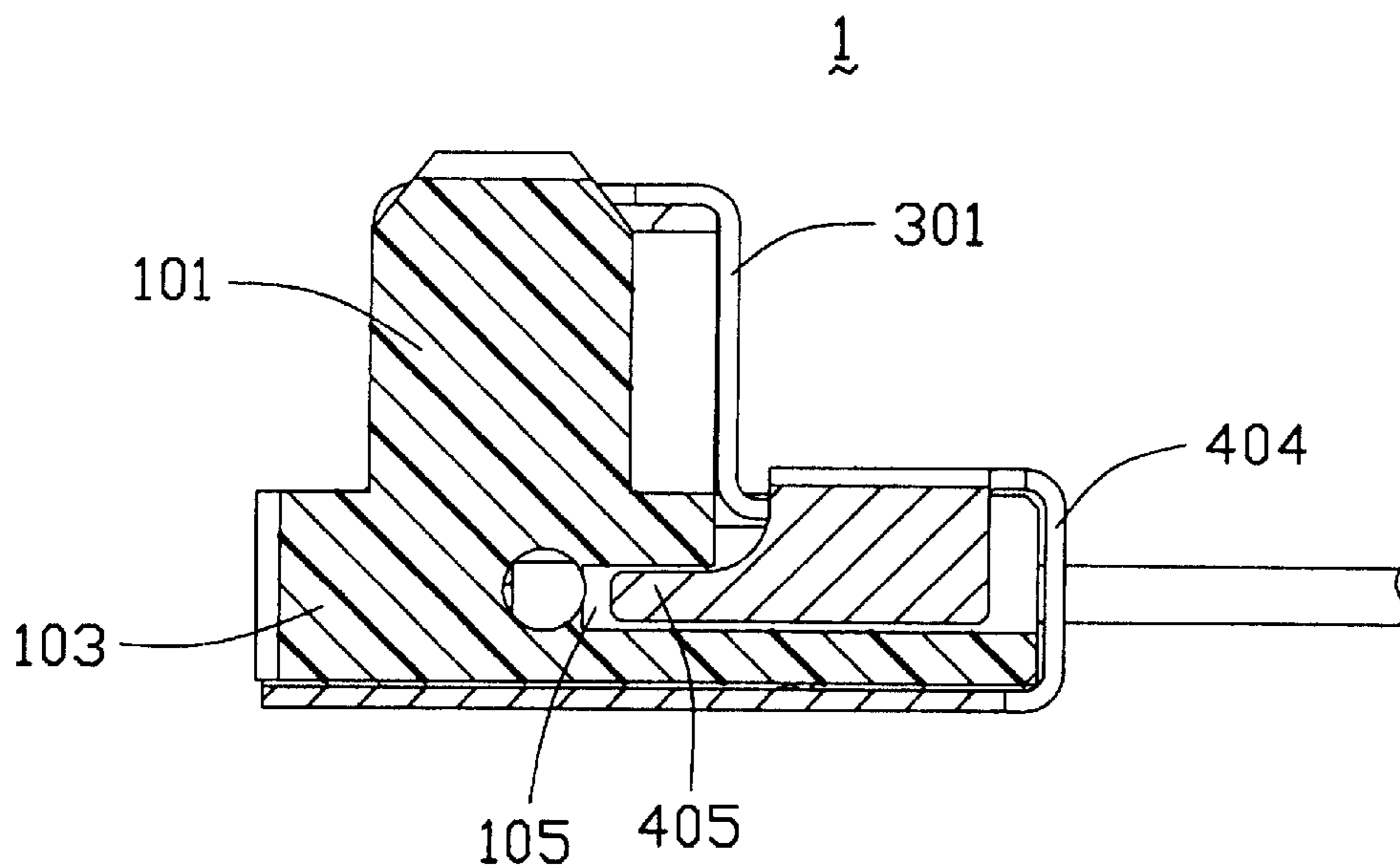


FIG. 5

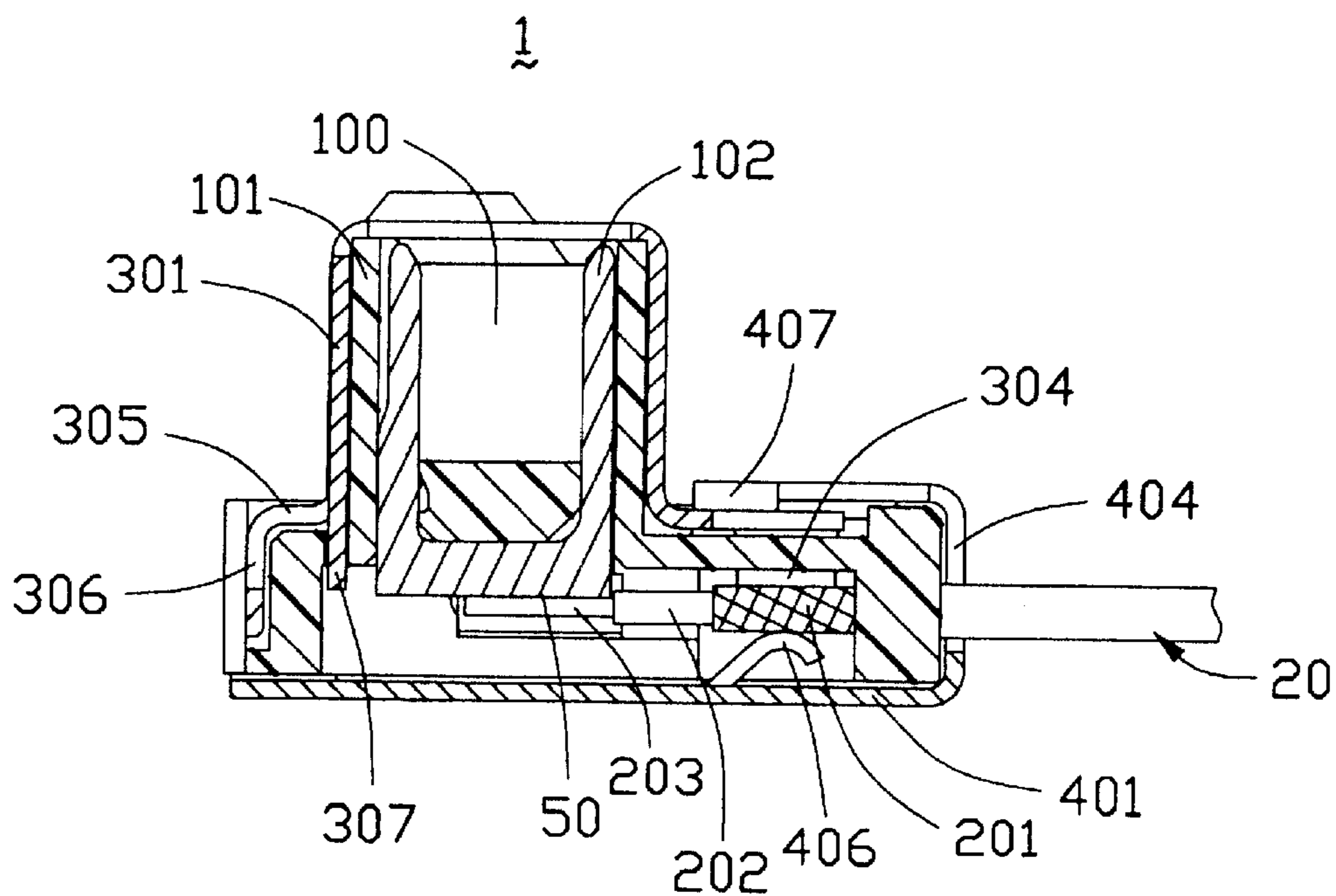


FIG. 6

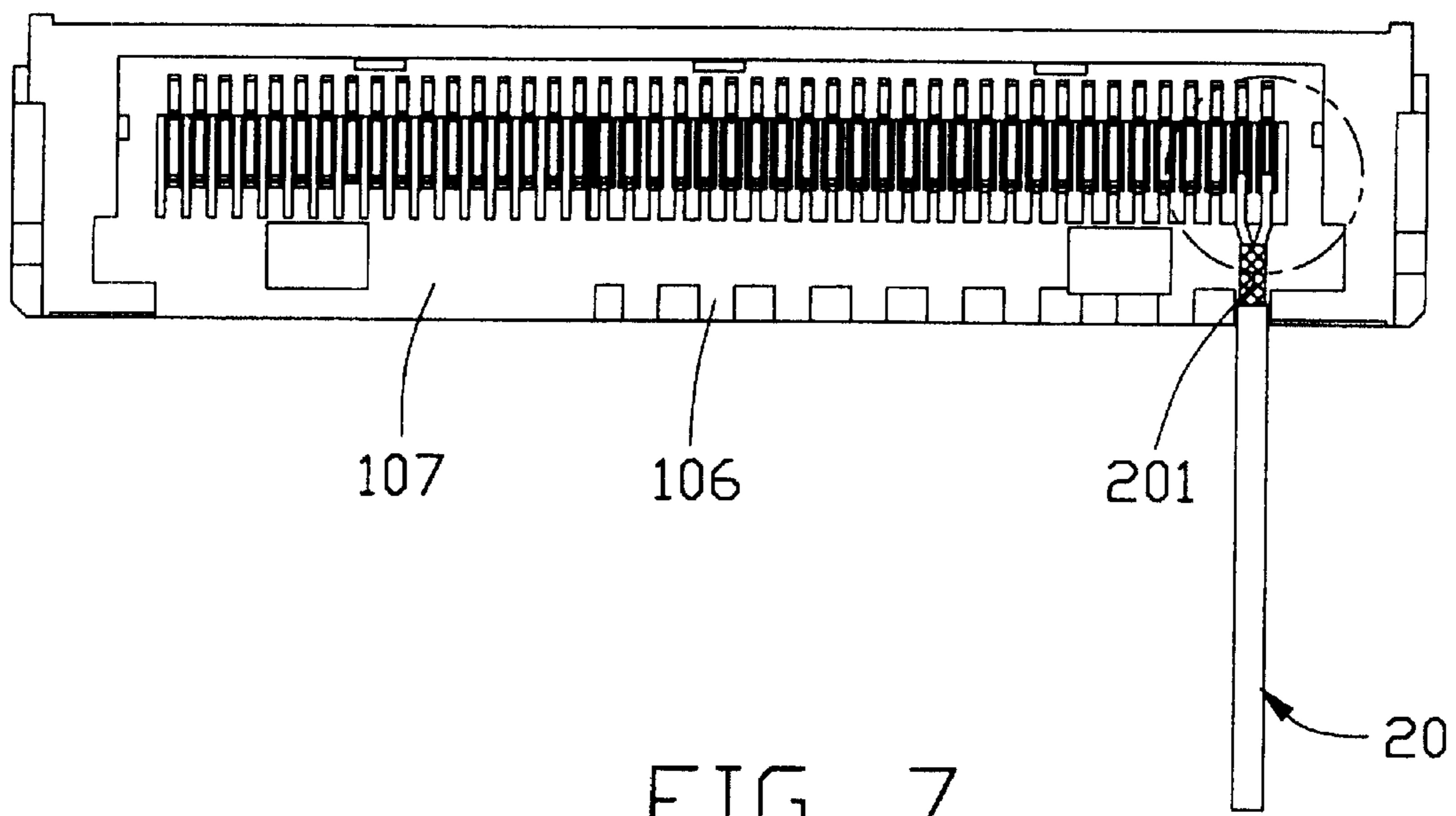


FIG. 7

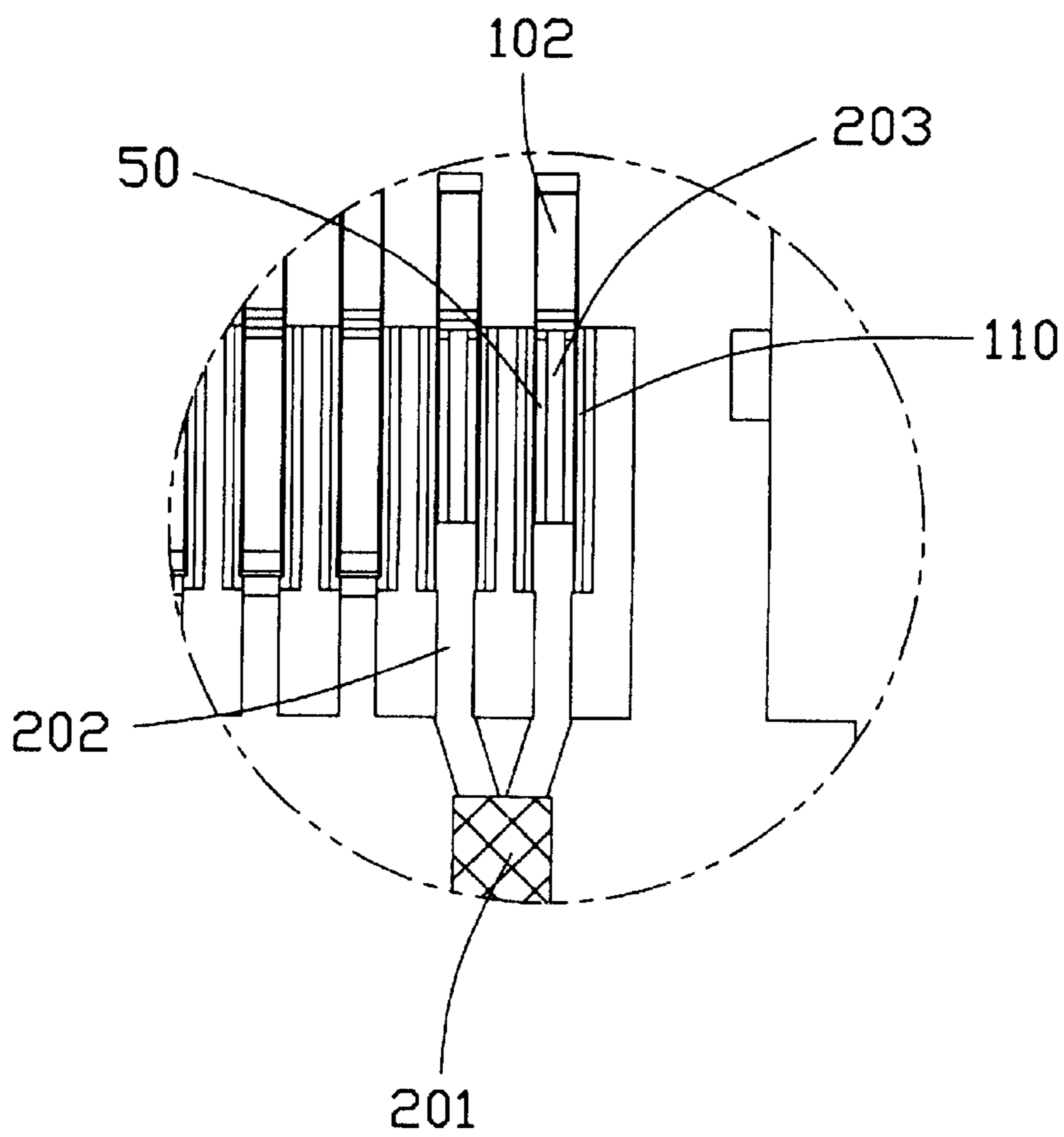


FIG. 8

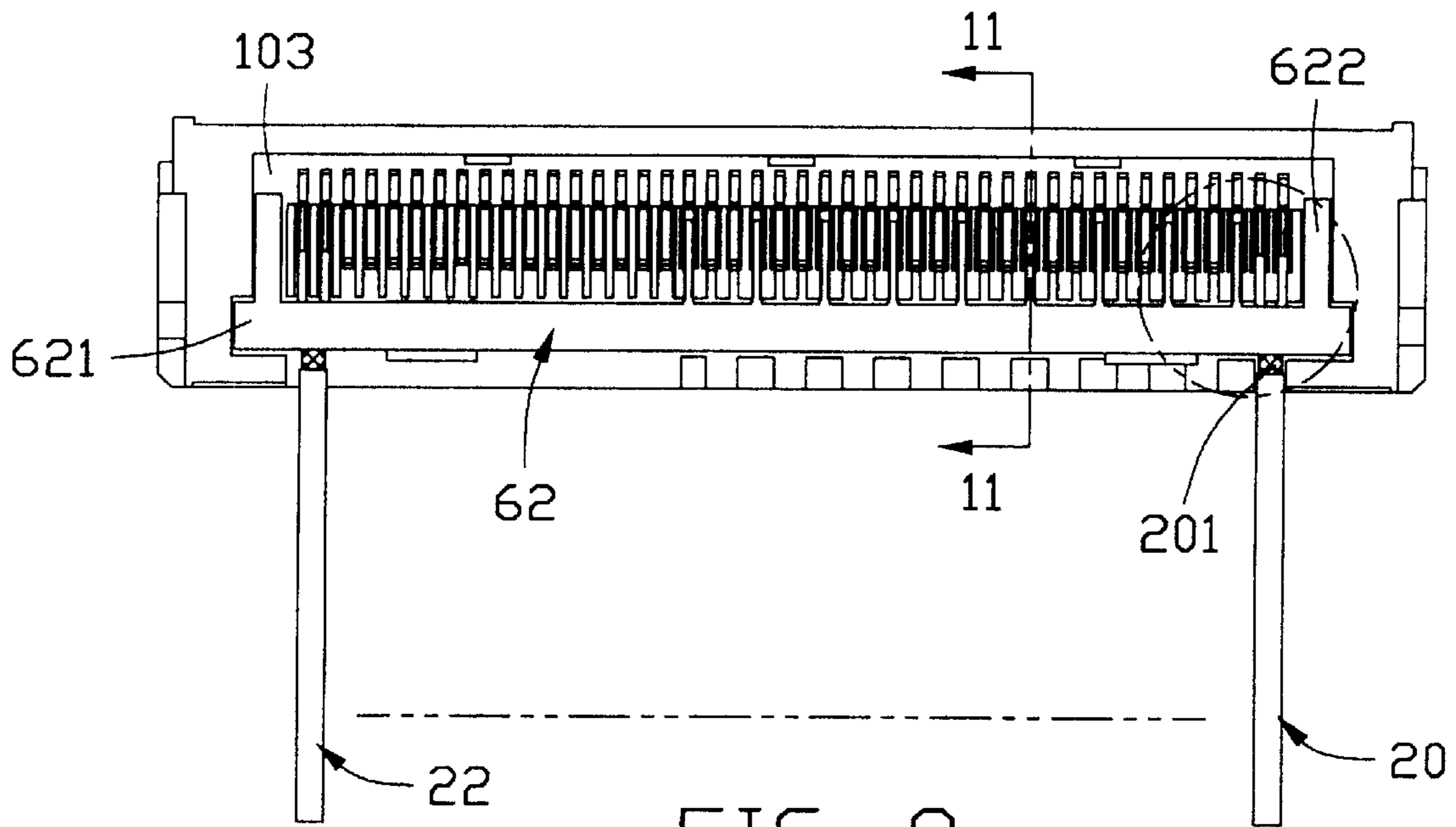


FIG. 9

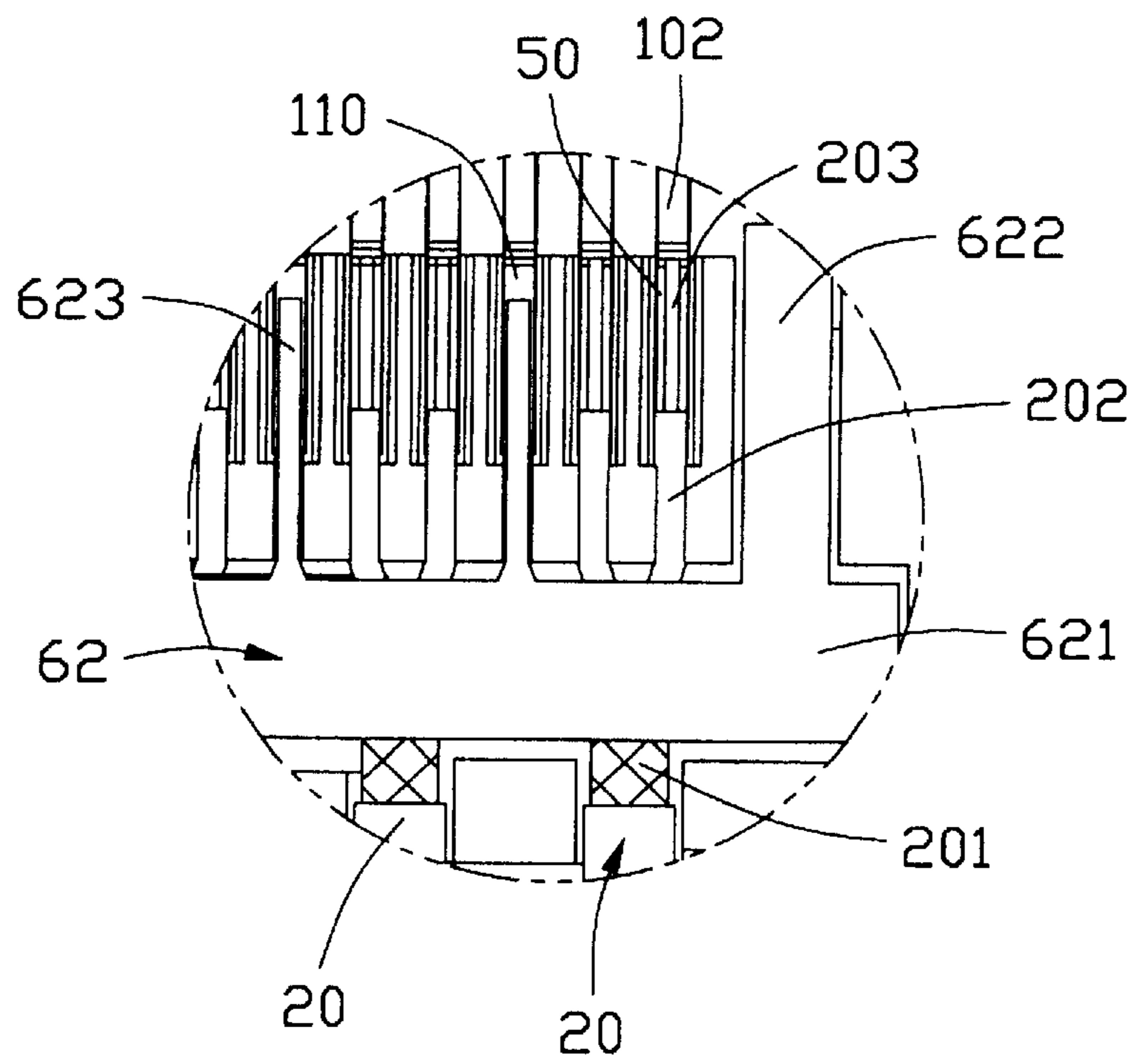


FIG. 10

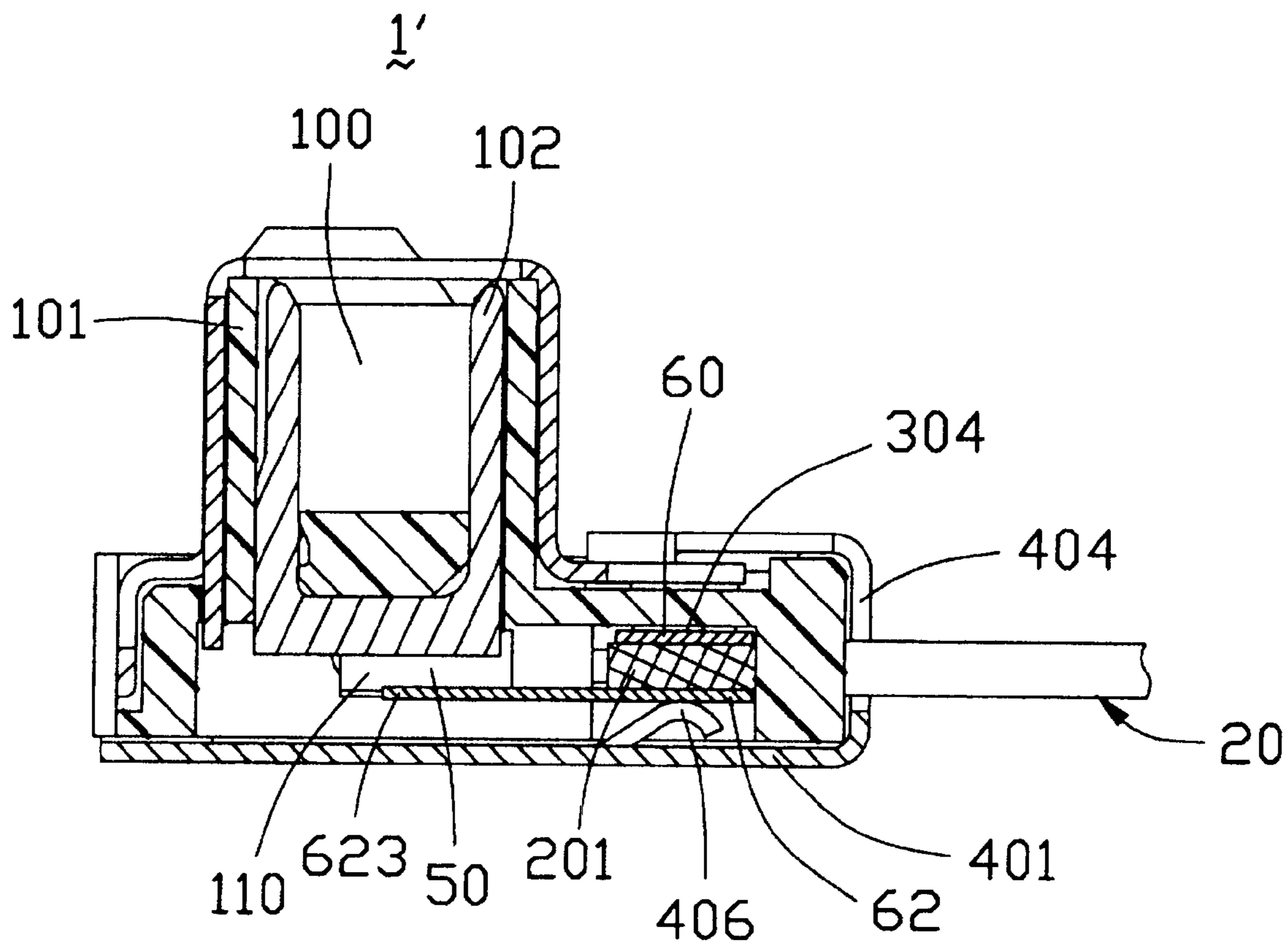


FIG. 11

VERTICALLY MATED MICRO COAXIAL CABLE CONNECTOR ASSEMBLY WITH GROUNDING SHIELD

CROSS-REFERENCES TO RELATED APPLICATIONS

This patent application is a Co-pending Application of Patent Applications, respectively entitled "VERTICALLY MATED MICRO COAXIAL CABLE CONNECTOR ASSEMBLY" with Ser. No. 10/155,758, "VERTICALLY MATED MICRO COAXIAL CABLE CONNECTOR ASSEMBLY" with Ser. No. 10/155,393 and "VERTICALLY MATED MICRO COAXIAL CABLE CONNECTOR ASSEMBLY WITH GROUNDING BAR" with Ser. No. 10/155,375, all invented by the same inventors as this patent application, all assigned to the same assignee and filed on the same date with this application.

FIELD OF THE INVENTION

The present invention relates to a micro coaxial cable connector assembly, and particularly to a micro coaxial cable connector assembly for electrically connecting with a header vertically mounted on a printed circuit board.

THE RELATED ARTS

In U.S. Pat. No. 6,123,582, a micro coaxial cable connector assembly for contacting with a mating electrical connector includes a first and a second housing members, a cable with a plurality of wires, an upper and a lower shield members, and a plurality of contacts. Each wire has a central signal conductor and a grounding braiding around the signal conductor. The connector assembly is horizontally mated with the mating connector. A grounding bar is soldered to the grounding braiding of the wires. The upper and lower shield members attached onto the first housing member are engagingly jointed with each other and electrically contact with a shield member of the mating connector. Meanwhile, the upper shield member further forms a plurality of spring fingers extending inside the first housing member to electrically engage with the grounding bar received therein. Therefore, a grounding path from the cables to the mating connector is established. This type of the micro coaxial cable connector assembly is usually used to connect a Liquid Crystal Display (LCD) with a main board of a notebook computer on which the mating connector is horizontally mounted.

In some applications, there is a necessity to mate a micro coaxial cable connector assembly in a vertical direction with a vertically mounted header. Under this circumstance, a micro coaxial cable connector assembly having a new structure is needed.

SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

Accordingly, an object of the present invention is to provide an improved micro coaxial cable connector assembly for mating with a header vertically mounted on a printed circuit board, in which the connector assembly has a grounding shield with an improved structure for firmly assembling with a housing of the connector assembly and providing a reliable grounding effectiveness.

Another object of the present invention is to provide a micro coaxial cable connector assembly for mating with a vertically mounted header, in which wires of a cable of the connector assembly can be easily and firmly connected to a connector of the assembly.

To achieve the above objects, a micro coaxial cable connector assembly in accordance with the present invention comprises a micro coaxial cable connector comprising a mating portion for mating with a header on a printed circuit board in a vertical direction and a base perpendicular to the mating portion, a plurality of terminals received in the mating portion, and a plurality of wires assembled to the base of the connector. Each wire comprises a conductor electrically connecting with a corresponding terminal. An upper grounding shield is assembled to the mating portion of the connector in a first direction and a lower grounding shield comprising a plate portion is assembled to a bottom of the base of the connector in a second direction perpendicular to the first direction. The lower grounding shield electrically connects with the upper grounding shield.

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS

The present invention will be apparent to those skilled in the art by reading the following description of a preferred embodiment thereof, with reference to the attached drawings, in which:

FIG. 1 is an explode perspective view of a micro coaxial cable connector assembly in accordance with the present;

FIG. 2 is a side view of the micro coaxial cable connector assembly of FIG. 1;

FIG. 3 is an assembled perspective view of the micro coaxial cable connector assembly of FIG. 1;

FIG. 4 is a view similar to FIG. 3, viewed from another aspect;

FIG. 5 is a cross-sectional view of the micro coaxial cable connector assembly taken along line 5—5 of FIG. 3;

FIG. 6 is a cross-sectional view of the micro coaxial cable connector taken along line 6—6 of FIG. 3;

FIG. 7 is a bottom plan view of the micro coaxial cable connector assembly in which upper and lower grounding shields of the assembly being removed for clarity;

FIG. 8 is an enlarged view of a circled portion of FIG. 7;

FIG. 9 is a bottom plan view of a micro coaxial cable connector assembly in accordance with a second preferred embodiment of the present invention in which upper and lower grounding shields of the assembly being removed for clarity;

FIG. 10 is an enlarged view of a circled portion of FIG. 7; and

FIG. 11 is a cross-sectional view of the micro coaxial cable connector taken along line 11—11 of FIG. 9.

DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF THE PREFERRED EMBODIMENT

With reference to the drawings and particularly to FIGS. 1–4, a micro coaxial cable connector assembly 1 constructed in accordance with the present invention comprises a connector 10, a flat cable comprising a group of first wires 20 for transmitting signals and a group of second wires 22 for transmitting power, an upper grounding shield 30 and a lower grounding shield 40.

Referring to FIGS. 1 and 2, the connector 10 comprises a mating portion 101 for mating with a corresponding complementary connector (not shown) which is a vertical header mounted on a printed circuit board, a plurality of terminals 102 received in the mating portion 101 and a base 103 perpendicular to the mating portion 101. The mating portion 101 has a recess 100 opening upwardly for receiving the complementary connector. The base 103 defines a pair of

recesses **104** through top and bottom faces (not labeled) of a front side of the base **103**. Referring to FIG. 5, a pair of elongate slots **105** is respectively defined in the base **103** adjacent to lateral ends of the base **103**. The base **103** defines a plurality of grooves **106** in the bottom of the front side thereof. The grooves **106** are used for respectively receiving the first wires **20** therein. The base **103** also defines a channel **107** beside the grooves **106** for receiving the second wires **22** therein. In addition, the base **103** comprises a pair of protrusions **108** respectively laterally protruding from the lateral ends thereof.

The upper grounding shield **30** generally has a U-shaped configuration and comprises a U-shaped portion **301** for covering the mating portion **101** of the connector **10**, a flat portion **302** extending forwardly from a bottom of one side of the U-shaped portion **301** and a flat portion **305** extending from a bottom of the other side of the U-shaped portion **301**, opposite the flat portion **302**. The flat portion **302** defines a pair of rectangular holes **303** adjacent to lateral ends thereof, respectively. The flat portion **302** also forms a pair of downwardly extending spring tags **304** between the two rectangular holes **303**. The spring tags **304** are received in the recesses **104** of the base **103**, respectively. A vertical portion **306** extends downwardly from the flat portion **305**. The U-shaped portion **301** also has a plurality of glossal portions **307** extending downward from the other side of the U-shaped portion **301** and into the base **103** (referring to FIGS. 4 and 6).

The lower grounding shield **40** comprises a plate portion **401**, a pair of buckling portions **402** respectively extending upwardly from lateral ends of the plate portion **401**, a bent edge **403** extending upward from a front side of the plate portion **401** and a pair of pressing portions **404** extending upwardly from the front side of the plate portion **403** beside the bent edge **403** and adjacent to the lateral ends of the plate portion **401**, respectively. The plate portion **401** defines a plurality of tags **406** extending upwardly. Each pressing portion **404** has a latch **405** extending rearwards from an outer side thereof and a hook **407** extending downwardly from an inner side thereof.

Referring to FIGS. 3–6, the upper grounding shield **30** and the lower grounding shield **40** are assembled to the connector **10**. First, the upper grounding shield **30** is assembled downwardly to the mating portion **101** of the connector **10** with the flat portion **302** of the U-shaped portion **301** located on the base **103** of the connector **10**, the spring tags **304** of the flat portion **302** respectively received in the recesses **104** of the base **103**, the flat portion **305** of the U-shaped portion **301** located on the base **103**, the vertical portion **306** covering a rear side of the base **103**, and the glossal portions **307** received in the base **103**. Second, the lower grounding shield **40** is assembled rearwardly to the base **103** with the pressing portions **404** pressing on the flat portion **302** of the upper grounding shield **30**, the latches **405** of the pressing portions **404** extending into and securely received into the slots **105** of the base **103** for preventing the pressing portions **404** from moving upwardly, the hooks **407** of the pressing portions **404** extending into the rectangular holes **303** of the upper grounding shield **30**, the buckling portions **402** of the lower grounding shield **40** also respectively buckling to the protrusions **108** on the lateral ends of the base **103**. Thus, the upper grounding shield **30**, the connector **10**, and the lower grounding shield **40** are securely assembled together. So a grounding path between the upper grounding shield **30** and the lower grounding shield **40** is established.

Referring to FIG. 7, the first and second wires **20**, **22** each comprise a pair of conductors **203** each electrically connect-

ing with the terminal **102**, an insulation **202** surrounding the conductor **203**, a metal braiding **201** surrounding the insulation **202** and a jacket (not labeled) surrounding the braiding **201**. The first wires **20** are respectively inserted into the grooves **106**. The second wires **22** are inserted in the channel **107**. The wires **20**, **22** are horizontally extended in the connector **10**. The bottom of the connector **10** defines a plurality of canals **110** with the terminals **102** exposing to the canals **110** and the conductors **203** of the first wires **20** located in the canals **110**. A number of solder slugs **50** are positioned into the canals **110**, whereby when the connector assembly **1** is subject to heat, the solder slugs **50** are melted to solder the terminals **102** and the conductors **203** of the first and second wires **20**, **22** together (referring to FIG. 6).

Further referring to FIGS. 9 to 11, a micro coaxial cable connector assembly **1'** in accordance with a second preferred embodiment of the present invention is shown. Same, components in the two embodiments are labeled by the same reference number. The micro coaxial cable connector assembly **1'** has a structure substantially the same as that of the micro coaxial cable connector assembly **1** of the first embodiment, except that the former further has top and bottom grounding bars **60**, **62**. The bottom grounding bar **62** is received in the bottom of the base **103** and comprises a rectangular portion **621** and a pair of strips **622** extending from two sides of the rectangular portion **621**. A plurality of grounding fingers **623** extends from the rectangular portion **621** into selected ones of the canals **110** of the base **103** to be soldered to grounding terminals of the terminals **102**. The grounding terminals are located between signal terminals connecting with the conductors **203** of two neighboring first wires **20**. The top grounding bar **60** has a similar configuration of the bottom grounding bar but does not have the grounding fingers.

In assembly, the top grounding bar **60** is first positioned in the bottom of the base **103** and the first and second wires **20**, **22** positioned on the top grounding bar **60** with the braiding **201** of the wires **20**, **22** electrically engaging with the top grounding bar **60**. The bottom grounding bar **62** is then put on the first and second wires **20**, **22** and engaged with the braiding **201** thereof. A heat is applied to the connector subassembly to melt the solder slugs **50** in the canals **110**, thereby soldering the terminals **102** and the conductors **203** of the first and second wires **20**, **22** and the grounding fingers **623** together. Finally, the upper grounding shield **30** is assembled to the mating portion **101** in a manner like the first embodiment with the spring tags **304** of the upper grounding shield **30** extending into the recesses **104** and electrically engaging with the top grounding bar **60**. The lower grounding shield **40** is assembled to the base **103** and the upper grounding shield **30** in a manner like the first embodiment, with the tags **406** electrically engaging with the bottom grounding bar **62**. The two grounding bars **60**, **62** are electrically connected with the braiding **201** of the wires **20**, **22**. So a grounding path between the upper grounding shield **30**, the top grounding bar **60**, the bottom grounding bar **62** and the lower grounding shield **40** is established.

Although the present invention has been described with reference to the preferred embodiment thereof, it is apparent to those skilled in the art that a variety of modifications and changes may be made without departing from the scope of the present invention which is intended to be defined by the appended claims.

What is claimed is:

1. A micro coaxial cable connector assembly comprising: a connector comprising a mating portion defining a recess adapted for receiving a complementary connector, said

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recess opening in a first direction and a base perpendicular to the mating portion;
 a plurality of terminals received in the mating portion;
 a plurality of wires assembled to connector and each wire comprising a conductor extending in a second direction and electrically connecting with a corresponding terminal, the first direction being perpendicular to the second direction;
 an upper grounding shield assembled to the mating portion of the connector in the first direction; and
 a lower grounding shield assembled to the base of the connector in the second direction, the lower grounding shield electrically connecting with the upper grounding shield; wherein
 the upper grounding shield having a flat portion extending outwardly therefrom and located on the base and the lower grounding shield having hooks and a pressing portion pressing against and electrically connecting with the flat portion; wherein
 the base comprises a slot and the pressing portion of the lower grounding shield has a latch assembled to the slot; wherein

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the base comprises a protrusion and the lower grounding shield has a buckling portion assembled to the protrusion so that the lower grounding shield and the connector are securely assembled together; wherein the upper grounding shield comprises a vertical portion covering a rear side of the base; wherein
 the base defines two recesses and the upper grounding shield comprises two spring tags extending along ends of the flat portions to be received into the recesses.
2. The micro coaxial cable connector assembly as claimed in claim **1**, wherein the wires are grouped into power transmitting wires and signal transmitting wires, and the base defines a plurality of grooves receiving the signal transmitting wires and a channel beside the grooves, the channel receiving the power transmitting wires.

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